

Message Text

PAGE 01 NATO 06001 291738Z

53

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SUBJECT: CCMS: OCTOBER 22-23, 1974 PLENARY - URBAN TRANSPORTATION

PILOT STUDY

REF: STATE 226051

SUMMARY: CCMS REVIEWED PROGRESS OF URBAN TRANSPORTATION PILOT STUDY WITH REPORTS PRESENTED BY UNITED STATES AS PILOT COUNTRY AND FROM BELGIUM, FRG, FRANCE, AND UK ON THEIR RESPECTIVE SUB-PROJECTS. DRAFT FINAL REPORTS ON TWO PROJECTS -- URBAN GOODS MOVEMENT AND LOW COST BUS PRIORITY SYSTEMS -- ARE CURRENTLY IN PROCESS OF DISTRIBUTION AMONG PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES. WORK ON OTHER THREE PROJECTS -- URBAN TRAVEL FORECASTING, COLLECTION SYSTEMS EVALUATION, AND EVALUATION OF SHORT DISTANCE TRANSPORT TECHNIQUES -- IS WELL UNDERWAY. DELEGATES DISCUSSED APPROACHES UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 NATO 06001 291738Z

FOR EFFECTIVELY DISSEMINATING PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS TO URBAN DECISION MAKERS. DELEGATES EXPRESSED GENERAL SATISFACTION WITH PROGRESS OF THIS PILOT STUDY.

1. BACKGROUND - ORIGINALLY PROPOSED BY US IN 1972, URBAN TRANSPORTATION PILOT STUDY WAS APPROVED BY NORTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL IN FEBRUARY, 1973. STUDY COMPRISES FIVE SUB-PROJECTS:

- A) LOW COST BUS PRIORITY SYSTEMS, LED BY UK AND CONCERNED WITH EVALUATING DIFFERENT TECHNIQUES OF GIVING PREFERENTIAL TREATMENT TO BUSES IN URBAN TRAFFIC;
- B) COLLECTION SYSTEMS EVALUATION, LED BY BELGIUM AND CONCERNED WITH EVALUATING ALTERNATIVE WAYS OF FEEDING RIDERS INTO LINE-HAUL SYSTEMS AND GENERAL APPLICATIONS OF DEMAND RESPONSIVE SYSTEMS;
- C) EVALUATION OF SHORT DISTANCE TRANSPORT TECHNIQUES, LED BY FRG AND CONCERNED WITH DEVELOPING PRACTICAL GUIDELINES FOR LOCAL AUTHORITIES' USE IN CHOOSING MOST APPROPRIATE TYPE OF URBAN TRANSIT SYSTEM FOR THEIR OWN PARTICULAR NEEDS.
- D) URBAN GOODS MOVEMENT, LED BY FRANCE, AND CONCERNED WITH IMPROVING URBAN FREIGHT MOVEMENTS SO AS TO LESSEN UNDESIRABLE ENVIRONMENTAL AND CONGESTION IMPACTS;
- E) URBAN TRAVEL FORECASTING, LED BY THE UNITED STATES, AND CONCERNED WITH DEMONSTRATING FEASIBILITY OF SIMPLIFIED, INEXPENSIVE PROCEDURE FOR MEASURING LIKELY TRENDS AND PATTERNS FOR FUTURE URBAN TRAVEL DEMAND.

2. US REP (WALSH), REPORTING ON URBAN TRAVEL FORECASTING PROJECT, DESCRIBED INITIAL INDICATIONS OF SUCCESS IN ATTEMPT TO DEVELOP SIMPLIFIED METHOD OF PREDICTING URBAN TRAFFIC DEMAND BY MODE. EMPLOYING ONLY A FEW KEY VARIABLES, DEMOGRAPHIC DATA FROM TYPICAL BRITISH, GERMAN AND AMERICAN CITIES HAVE BEEN ANALYSED BY COMPUTER AND THE RESULTS REVEALED A BASICALLY CONSISTENT SET OF RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN THEM AND FUTURE TRAVEL DEMAND. VERIFICATION OF THESE RESULTS WILL SHORTLY BE SOUGHT USING DEMOGRAPHIC DATA FROM OTHER CITIES INCLUDING SEVERAL IN THE NETHERLANDS. A FINAL REPORT IS CONTEMPLATED BY THE END OF 1975.

3. THE UNITED STATES ALSO TABLED A DISCUSSION PAPER DEALING WITH HOW TO DISSEMINATE THE CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS, OF THE URBAN TRANSPORTATION PILOT STUDY PROJECTS TO LOCAL AND MUNICIPAL DECISION-MAKERS. THE PAPER AND SUBSEQUENT PLENARY DISCUSSION EMPHASIZED THAT DRAFTERS OF INDIVIDUAL PROJECT REPORTS SHOULD BE UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 NATO 06001 291738Z

ESPECIALLY SENSITIVE TO IMPLICATIONS OF THIS QUESTION AND CCMS MEMBERS SHOULD ANTICIPATE THE PROBLEMS OF EFFECTIVE DISSEMINATION OF THE STUDY'S RECOMMENDATIONS TO AUTHORITIES BELOW THE FEDERAL /NATIONAL LEVEL.

4. 4. FRG-LED PROJECT ON EVALUATION OF SHORT DISTANCE TRANSPORT TECHNIQUES IS CONCERNED WITH DEVELOPMENT OF GUIDELINES FOR LOCAL OFFICIALS IN SELECTION OF URBAN TRANSPORT INVESTMENTS. A DETAILED OUTLINE OF A CATALOGUE WHICH WILL EXTENSIVELY DESCRIBE AND EVALUATE DIFFERENT TYPES OF TRANSIT EQUIPMENT HAS BEEN PREPARED AND CIRCULATED TO PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES. A MEETING OF EXPERTS IS SCHEDULED FOR DECEMBER 1974 IN LONDON WITH A DRAFT REPORT

ENVISAGED BY THE END OF THE YEAR AND A FINAL REPORT BY THE END OF 1975.

5. THE BUS PRIORITY SYSTEMS PROJECT, LED BY THE UK, IS EXPLORING AND EVALUATING THE MOST ADVANCED TECHNIQUES FOR FACILITATING BUS MOVEMENT THROUGH URBAN TRAFFIC. AN INITIAL DRAFT REPORT WITHC DRAWS PRINCIPALLY UPON BRITISH, CANADIAN, FRENCH AND AMERICAN EXPERIENCES HAS BEEN CIRCULATED. A SECOND DRAFT REPORT, CONTAINING TENTATIVE CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS, IS PROJECTED FOR THE END OF THE YEAR. A MEETING OF EXPERTS TO REVIEW THE FINAL DRAFT REPORT IS TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 1975 IN WASHINGTONM

6. UNDER BELGIAN LEADERSHIP, THE COLLECTION SYSTEMS EVALUATION PROJECT US CONCERNED WITH DEVELOPING A METHOD OF MEASURING THE POTENTIAL SCOPE OF APPLICATION FOR DEMAND-RESPONSIVE TRANSIT SYSTEMS SUCH AS "DIAL-A-BUS". SUCH SYSTEMS COULD POTENTIALLY SERVE AS FEEDERS TO A MAINLINE RAIL SYSTEM. THE BELGIAN DEMONSTRATION IS BASED UPON A HOUSEHOLD SURVEY IN WATERLOO WHERE A DIAL-A-BUS SYSTEM IS PLANNED. THE BELGIAN DELEGATE CAUTIONED THAT QUICH RESULTS SHOULD NOT BE EXPECTED FROM THIS PROJECT AS THE BELGIAN PROJECT LEADERS INTEND NOT ONLY TO EXPLOIT THE USUAL ANALYTICAL APPROACHES TO EXPLORE THE DATA BUT ALSO TO SEEK THE DEVELOPMENT OF NEW TECHNIQUES.

7. THE URBAN GOODS MOVEMENT PROJECT DIRECTED BY FRANCE HAS PRODUCED A DRAFT FINAL REPORT. THIS REPORT PROVIDES CURRENT VIEWS OF ALLIED EXPERTS ON METHODS OF AMELIORATING CONGESTION, UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 04 NATO 06001 291738Z

ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION, ECONOMIC AND TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH CURRENT METHODS OF MOVING FREIGHT WITHIN URBAN AREAS FOR LOCAL PICKUP AND DELIVERY. MCAULIFFE.

UNCLASSIFIED

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